session held in January, 1995 have made wide ranging recommendations; if so, what are the details of these recommmendations;

(b) whether the ILC has urged Government to enact laws on a priority basis for unorganised agricultural and construction workers and to reorganise the country's vocational training system; if so, what are the details in this regard; and what steps Government propose to take in the matter;

(c) whether ILC has also approved the resolutions adopted in October, 1994 by the Standing Labour Committee on elimination of child labour standards and international trade; if so, what are the details of these resolutions; and

(d) whether Government propose to implement these recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (d) The 31st Session of Indian Labour Conference held during 3-4 January, 1995 discussed papers on (i) Industrial Relations in the context of economic reforms, and (ii) Employment and Vocational Training. The Conference *inter-alia* resolved that (i) Socal partners should come together in making the comprehensive Industrial Law a reality, (2) productivity of economic enterprises should be promoted by optimising capacity utilisation and through measures/practices for producing goods and service of high quality; (3) Pension Scheme for provident fund subscribers should be introduced on a priority basis; (4) sick industrial enterprises registered with the BIFR should be inestigated speedily; 5) facilities for skill upgradation and retraining of workers should be enhanced and 6) laws for covering agricultural and constructions workers should be enacted on a priority basis.

The Indian Labour Conference also endorsed the resolutions of the 32nd Session of the Standing Labour Committee in respect of the social clause and child labour elimination. The Standing Labour Committee had unanimously resolved that the Government of India and the Organisation of Employers and workers should resist in the ILO and other fora any attempt from any quarter to introduce the "social clause" making market access to international trade conditional upon enforcement of labour standards. It was also resolved by the Standing Labour Committee that the Central and State Government and organisations of workers and employers should take coordinated action for elimination of child labour in hazardous employments by 2000 A.D. The recommendations of the Indian Labour Conference are considered by the Government while formulating various programmes and proposals.

Effective Enforcement of Laws Relating to Child Labour

955. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) what are the details of the labour laws under which child labour is probibited;

(b) what is the machinery for watching the effective enforcement of these laws;

(c) whether there is any proposal to amend the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act for the effective enforcement of the Child Labour laws; and

(d) if so, what are its details and by what date a suitable legislation in this regard is likely to be introduced in Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) The Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 prohibits the employment of children below 14 years of age in specific occupations

and processes contained in Parts A & B of the Schedule to the Act. It also regulates working conditions of children in non-prohibited employments. It provides for penalties for violation of the law.

In addition to this law, there are protective and prohibitory provisions in various Labour Laws as well, such as the Factories Act, 1948, the Mines Act, 1952, the Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961, the Bidi and Cigar workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966.

(b) The Government of India monitors the enforcement of the Child Labour (Regulation & Prohibition) Act, 1986 both in the Central and States spheres.

(c) and (d) A proposal to amend the Child Labour (Prohibition & Regulation) Act, 1986 is under consideration of the Government to make it more effective.

Pension for journalists

956. SHRI HIPHEI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to provide pension to the journalists in near future;

(b) if so, the details of such scheme with effective date of payment of pension;

(c) whether such moves of Government have some background;

(d) if so, the details thereof;

(e) whether such facility to journalists also ensure other benefits; and

(f) if so, details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (f) The Central Board of Trustees, EPF, had recommended introduction of pension scheme for all the EPF subscribers including the journalists. The Central Government considered the recommendations of the Board and have since decided to introduce a suitable pension scheme for all the EPF subscribers. A Bill to amend the EPF & MP Act, 1952 for empowering the Central Government to frame the scheme has already been introduced in the Rajya Sabha. The proposed scheme provides for payment of monthly pension in the contingencies of retirement, superannuation, permanent total disablement, death etc. The facilities like family pension, EDLI and other benefits will continue to be admissble to the subscribers even after the introduction of the pension scheme. As introduction of the pension scheme involves amendment of the Act, it is difficult to indicate the effective date of payment of pension at this stage.

Apprehensions expressed by journalists about the functioning of wage Boards

957. SHRI HIPHEI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to apprehensions expressed by journalists for delay in the functioning of the Wage Board for Journalists and non-journalists;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether Government propose to take some action in the matter; and

(d) if so, details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (d) A combined meeting of the Wage Board for Working Journalists and the Wage Board for Non-Journalist Newspaper and News-agency employees has been convened on 3.4.1995.